

### *Tours Bettendorf Steel Foundry*

**Washington, DC** – Congressman Bruce Braley (D-Iowa) visited Bettendorf today to discuss the importance of a strong manufacturing economy in America. Braley, the chairman of the House Populist Caucus, toured Sivyer Steel Foundry and talked about the need for a comprehensive manufacturing agenda as the economy continues to recovery from the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression. Last week, President Barack Obama signed into law the US Manufacturing Enhancement Act, part of the House Democrats' *Make it in America* manufacturing agenda.

"Balancing our trade deficit is the key to economic stability and growth," Braley said. "Here in Iowa, we know we have the hardest workers in the world and we know that we can make products of the highest quality. Here at Sivyer Steel, they're doing things the right way. The Make It in America Platform includes key pieces of legislation that I've championed to encourage manufacturers to keep jobs right here in America, strengthening our communities and expanding our economy."

Two pieces of the Populist Caucus' *American Jobs First Platform* were recently included in the *Make it in America* manufacturing agenda and passed by the US House of Representatives.

The *National Manufacturing Strategy Act* would produce a comprehensive national manufacturing strategy by requiring the President to establish a Manufacturing Strategy Board within the Commerce Department. The board would consist of federal officials, two state Governors from different political parties, and nine private-sector leaders and stakeholders from the manufacturing industry.

The Board would conduct a comprehensive analysis of the manufacturing sector covering everything from trade issues to financing to the defense industrial base. Based on this analysis,

the President's Board would then develop a National Manufacturing Strategy.

This strategy would include short and long-term goals for the manufacturing industry and specific recommendations on how to achieve those goals.

The *End the Trade Deficit Act* is the second piece of the *American Jobs First Platform* later added to the *Make it in America* manufacturing agenda.

This bill would establish a commission to develop a coherent trade strategy to achieve balanced trade. The *End the Trade Deficit Act* so we can begin the process of balancing our out of control trade deficit. passed the House unanimously in July and now the Senate must quickly act on the